

Today, one of the most effective treatments in the fight against cancer is Bone Marrow Transplantation. In the United States today, approximately 25,000 patients receive bone marrow transplants as curative treatment for diseases such as lymphoma, leukemia, breast cancer and ovarian cancer. That figure is expected to increase by 30 percent annually, as physicians and researchers learn more about how these debilitating and fatal diseases can be cured with aggressive transplant therapy. In addition, BMT therapy is also being actively explored as a means of conferring resistance to fatal viral infections, including HIV and also for the amelioration of chronic disorders of the immune system such as multiple sclerosis.

The City of Hope National Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute is one of the advanced BMT and stem cell treatment and research centers in the world. Presently, City of Hope is the largest provider of BMT services in California, as well as the largest provider of BMT services to Hispanic Americans in the United States. Innovative research and development at City of Hope led to recent improvements in BMT technology which have resulted in a dramatic shift of therapy from the inpatient to the outpatient setting. This shift has produced significant savings in the cost of health care services and has increased patient access to this lifesaving technology. Complementing its BMT program, City of Hope has the premier Radio-immunotherapy program in the nation. The design, synthesis and production of reagent grade radio labelled smaller antibodies used in initial clinical trials have successfully demonstrated improved efficacy in targeting tumor cells. These synthetic molecules are now ready to be used to selectively deliver deadly radioactivity to cancer cells through out the body with low toxicity as part of curative bone marrow transplantation.

The development of curative BMT/RI therapy is expected to lead to clear increases in cancer survivability rates and is expected to greatly reduce the pain experienced by cancer patients while tempering the often severe side effects of current therapy. Because the majority of BMT/RI therapy will be rendered in an outpatient setting, its development is consistent with the goal of achieving meaningful medical breakthroughs without a concomitant exorbitant cost.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the efforts of City of Hope National Medical Center to develop this cutting edge treatment for cancer patients and pledge to support their efforts to win Federal funding for this critical demonstration when Congress returns in January. It is my firm belief that such an investment would demonstrate critical support by the Federal Government for a much needed and valuable research and treatment program that could have a curative effect on many forms of cancer which affect American lives daily.

HONORING RUTH CALVERT
FITZGERALD

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruth Calvert Fitzgerald, the president and CEO of the Will County Chamber of Com-

merce in Joliet, Illinois as she resigns from her position of twelve years. Ruth is relocating to California with her husband, Joe, in pursuit of her passion to design jewelry.

Ruth made a decision in 1985 to leave her position in Spartanburg, South Carolina to take on the task of rebuilding a badly damaged local economy in Will County, Illinois. Ruth has an uncanny ability to forge relationships with people, setting the foundation on which to build the alliance and networks necessary for progress. Solidifying a ring of support from local government officials, community leaders, and private citizens, Ruth engineered an economic recovery program which serves as a model for any community working to rebuild. Ruth has stressed the Joliet and Will County communities away from impending economic destruction to become what is now the fastest growing county in Illinois.

With Ruth at the helm, Will County has seen 1000 new businesses locate in Will County. In addition, 300 existing companies have expanded their operations, creating a net increase of 45,000 new jobs. Under Ruth's leadership, the Will County Center for Economic Development has positioned itself as a major force both locally and nationally. Overseeing the largest privately funded economic development program over attempted in Illinois, Ruth has amassed quite a list of highlights for the Will County CED. While being named one of our nations top ten economic development groups by the Industrial Development Research Council, the Will County CED engineered efforts to pass local school referendums, launched a global marketing campaign, created Will County's first comprehensive shelter for the homeless, and created the Will County Chamber of Commerce as a vehicle to impact public policy.

Our community is deeply indebted to Ruth and will benefit from her hard work and successes for many generations. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Ruth for her vision to believe in our community when many turned their backs, her ability to take an idea from conception to completion and most certainly for the honorable way in which she has conducted herself. I wish Ruth and her family all the best life can provide as she begins another chapter in her success story. Laguna Niguel, California is gaining a tremendous servant.

THE DEATH TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will improve the prospects of every family owned and operated farm, ranch, and business in America. These small family farms and businesses are the backbone of the Texas economy, and the estate tax, often called the death tax, threatens their continued existence. It is time to end this tax—and my bill does just that.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that farmers' and ranchers' estates are six times more likely to face estate taxes than others estates. In my travels around the 19 counties of the First Congressional District, evidence of the accuracy of this estimation pours forth. At nearly every stop I make, I

hear horror stories from family members who were forced to sell all or part of the family farm just to pay estate taxes.

The death tax represents 1 percent of the Federal tax revenues. However, the impact to the taxpayers is far from insignificant. Not only does this punitive tax cause financial problems for families who are forced to sell property that has been in the family for generations or businesses built over a lifetime, but also local economies feel the impact as jobs disappear and businesses close. Clearly, the social and economic costs of the estate tax far outweigh the revenue it provides for the Federal Government.

The time has come to end this ill conceived tax. The tax that was originally intended to break up huge family estates now inhibits the passage of 70 percent of family businesses from one generation to the next. We took meaningful steps to reduce the burden of death taxes on family farms and small businesses this year in the Taxpayer Relief Act. The next step is to completely eliminate it and free families from this burden forever.

IN HONOR OF ERNIE ANDERSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Ernie Anderson, a beloved television personality in the city of Cleveland.

During the 1960's, Ghouliardi, a character created by Anderson, hosted Friday night horror movies on Cleveland's Channel 8. The Friday night movie immediately succeeded and regularly drew a larger audience than Johnny Carson and Steve Allen combined. Ghouliardi also became a cult figure in Cleveland by entertaining thousands of people every week. Through mocking grade-Z horror movies and injecting himself onto the screen to shout at characters and join in the action, Ernie Anderson created a legacy of quality entertainment and humor that television personalities still strive to uphold today.

Ernie Anderson eventually moved to California, where he gained national recognition as the man with the golden throat. After acting and performing a comedy routine with Tim Conway, Ernie became ABC's network announcer. During his time with ABC, Ernie's credits ranged from "The Love Boat" to "Roots" and "The Winds of War."

Throughout the years, Ernie Anderson's distinctive and trailblazing style of entertainment brought joy and happiness to millions of individuals across the country. My fellow colleagues, please join me in remembering Ernie Anderson.

RECOGNITION OF JIMMY K.
MELVER AS NORTHEAST EL
PASOAN OF THE YEAR FOR 1996

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Jimmy K. Melver as the Northeast

El Pasoan of the Year for 1996. Jimmy has served El Paso with unmatched dedication and desire while asking for nothing in return.

Jimmy is the current Chairman of the Board of the American Heart Association and was the past Development Chairman and Outstanding Regional Volunteer of the Year for West Texas. He has served the Boy Scouts of America for more than 28 years and is the current Chairman of the Troop Committee of Troop 222.

Jimmy has been a member of the Highland Presbyterian Church for more than 35 years. He currently serves the church in his capacity as co-music leader for Sunday School and Chairman of the 40th Anniversary celebration. He currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Northgate Optimist Club. His involvement in the community includes service to Andress High School as the past President of the Band Booster Club. He is also a Life Member of the Texas Parent Teacher Association.

I would like to thank Jimmy Melver for his years of dedication and service to El Paso. We can all learn a great deal from Jimmy and the sacrifices he has made to improve his community. He is typical of what El Paso has become known for in the Southwest, individuals that work long, hard, and unselfish hours on behalf of this community for no other reason than to create a community where everyone can feel welcome. He shines as bright as the star on our mountain.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE IRVIN B.
BOOKER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Newark community on the occasion of his retirement after a long and distinguished judicial career, the Honorable Irvin B. Booker.

Judge Booker has contributed over two decades of service to our community. Appointed to the Newark Court in 1970, he served as presiding judge of the Newark Municipal Court from 1974 through 1980. He was then elevated by the Governor of the New Jersey to the position of Judge of the Essex County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. Most recently, he sat on the Superior Court of New Jersey, assigned to the Family Court part of Essex County.

Not only has Judge Booker gained great respect for his professional accomplishments, he has also won the admiration and gratitude of the community for his tireless volunteer work. Judge Booker, affectionately known as "Buddy" by his close friends, is noted for his vision and creative ideas to benefit the community. Always thinking of ways to improve the community or to stimulate citizens' awareness, he has been considered a fair, thoughtful and even-mannered judge. Judge Booker has increased the awareness of the judiciary by hosting an annual Black History Month program at the County Courts Building, which has continued to grow in size and stature.

He has been an active participant in the Celebrity Read Program for Newark Elementary School Students; an active supporter of Senior Citizens events for the James C. White Senior

Citizen Complex; an organizer of Education Encouragement Day for the city of Newark; an advisor and Pro Bono Incorporating Attorney for New Community Corporation, which meets numerous needs in our community; an organizing member of the First Crispus Attucks Day Parade; a Founder and Coordinator of the Life Experience and Achievement Program; and a supporter of the Weequahic High School and Chancellor Annex Father's Club. He was also a founding member of the Baristers of New Jersey, the Concerned Legal Associates, and the Garden State Bar. Other professional affiliations include membership in: the American Bar Association, the New Jersey State Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the Essex County Bar Association, the Essex County Municipal Court Judges Association, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Counsel, the Seton Hall Moot Court-Visiting Instructor, the Legal Advisory Committee of Montclair State College, the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Municipal Courts, the Advisory Board of the New Jersey Center for Law and Related Education, and the National Council for Judicial Planning.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and best wishes for the future to Judge Booker.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE PERNICK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as we on the Federal legislative level finish our work on the floor for this year, I want to pay tribute to Lawrence Pernick, an outstanding legislator on the local level for 27 years.

Until his untimely and sudden death on November 6, Larry Pernick embodied the best in public service. While the Oakland County Board was supposed to be an avocation, Larry Pernick viewed his service as a county commissioner to be a vital part of his role in life.

It was manifested in his hard work, his sense of camaraderie beyond party lines, and his sense of human about his work.

There was little publicity about his valuable public efforts, but that never bothered Larry Pernick. He valued the respect of his colleagues and the integrity of his labors more than the beam of publicity. Good work was its own reward, not the limelight.

So he will be sorely missed, by colleagues, also by his long-time friends, and most of all by his loved and loving family, his wife of 48 years, Anne, his children, and his grandchildren.

THE 61ST ANNIVERSARY OF MORNING
STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the congregation of the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church and its pastor, the Reverend Dr.

Charles E. Betts, Sr., for celebrating the 61st anniversary of the church.

Morning Star has provided spiritual guidance to thousands and has made a tremendous contribution to the community. I have been fortunate enough to visit Morning Star and to meet with Reverend Betts on many occasions, and I can attest to his dedication to children and to the community he serves. In a neighborhood which desperately needs people who care and who want honesty, fairness, and justice for those who live there, it is a true testament to Reverend Betts and to Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church that they have become the shining star of their community. Congratulations.

STUPAK & BERGMAN PC

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to a business development in Escanaba, a shore community in the 1st Congressional District of Michigan. In that city on December 13, my brother Frank Stupak and his long-time law partner, John Bergman, will dedicate their new business location, a new building on the waterfront in downtown Escanaba, next to the historic House of Ludington.

In December Frank will also mark his 25th year as an attorney, a quarter century of service to northern Michigan.

Frank began his legal career after graduating from the University of Toledo law school in 1972. He began with the firm of Hansley, Neiman, Peterson and Beauchamp PC, and later went into partnership with John Bergman.

Frank's first year of practice, which included prosecuting cases for the city of Escanaba, coincided with my first year as a law enforcement officer in Escanaba. I would arrest people and Frank would prosecute them. We were an unbeatable team.

Before I was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1988, I was a partner with Frank and John and worked out of their offices in Escanaba and nearby Menominee. Frank had been the oldest brother in our large family, and we always looked up to him. Now, as a law partner I got to see first-hand his professional commitment.

I've watched my brother consistently handle some of the most important cases in northern Michigan. To those who ask how he has managed to land such good legal work, his standard answer is, "because I've worked hard on every case for 25 years."

Mr. Speaker, today I wish the best for Frank; his wife Penny; his daughter Stefanie, a family services counselor and youth activities coordinator; and his son Trent, a student in pre-law at Michigan State University. I know that Frank hopes one day his son will follow him in service to northern Michigan. I also offer my congratulations to John, his wife Mary and his son John, a high school student. Good luck, too, to Martin Fittanti, a junior associate at the firm of Stupak & Bergman PC.

I'm proud to have been part of their firm, and I continue to feel pride when I hear the respect with which people regard the quality of service the firm provides. In fact, the quality of the representation of that firm has only been a benefit to my political aspiration.